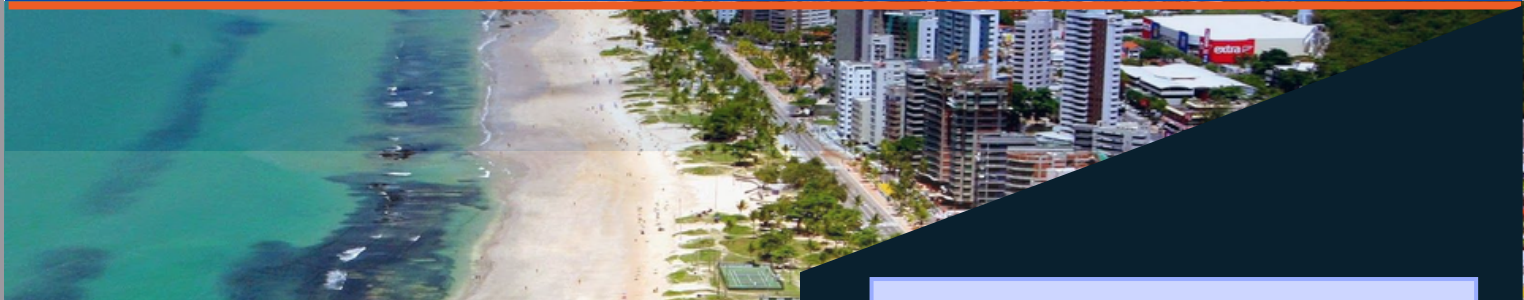


I REPROLAM SYMPOSIUM

“INTEGRATION AND SHARED EXPERIENCE IN
RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION”
NOVEMBER 5-8, 2024 - RECIFE, BRAZIL



REPROLAM, The Optimization Network for Radiological Protection in Latin America and the Caribbean cordially invites all professionals in the field of radiological protection to participate in this Symposium, focusing on the theme of Integration and Shared Experience in Radiological Protection. It is a great opportunity to share your scientific findings and strengthen this important research area in Latin America.

The symposium will be preceded by courses in radiological protection covering the following topics:

- Computational Dosimetry Techniques,
- Radiological Protection in Veterinary Medicine,
- Radiological Protection in the Event of Incidents and Accidents, and
- Radiological Protection in Interventional Radiology

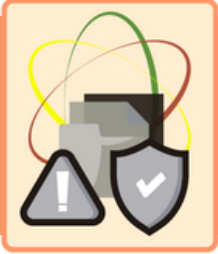
TOPICS:

- External Dosimetry
- Internal Dosimetry
- Biological Dosimetry
- Computational Dosimetry
- Radiological Metrology
- Safety Culture
- Safety Assessment
- End Users (Medical and Industrial)

DATES OF INTEREST

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT	January 2024
SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT	February 2024
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE	June 26, 2024
ABSTRACT ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION	August 15, 2024
EARLY REGISTRATION	August 30, 2024
COURSE REGISTRATION DEADLINE	October 10, 2024
FULL PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION	December 30, 2024
I REPROLAM SYMPOSIUM	November 5-8, 2024

The Second Symposium Announcement will be sent soon.



CULTURA DE SEGURIDAD

SAFETY FIRST

Space dedicated to common understanding and the promotion of Safety Culture through information, analysis, dissemination of experiences and related news.

THE TECHNIQUES FOR ASSESSING THE SAFETY CULTURE OF AN ORGANIZATION (PART 3)



In this second newsletter of 2024, we resume our section on Safety Culture topics. Before diving in, we want to wish everyone reading a happy and prosperous year. We also express gratitude to those who have written to us with their comments, which we highly value. We will continue to share information and materials that contribute to a better understanding of this important subject and its implementation in our region. And remember, any suggestions or interests in having us address a particular topic in this section can be communicated through the email account laseguridadprimero2023@gmail.com

In this edition, we will continue discussing techniques for assessing safety culture. In previous newsletters, we covered Survey and Document Review techniques. In this newsletter, we will introduce the Process Observation technique.

As the name suggests, this technique involves witnessing, in real conditions and time, the operations, processes, or activities carried out in the organization to capture cultural aspects through the observation of practices or habits, behavior patterns, interpersonal relationships, decision-making, as well as aspects related to work environments, organization, and other visible manifestations of the organization's culture. It is a valuable technique for confirming the correspondence or difference between the observed actual behavior and the intentions written in the company's documentation.

Similar to the document review technique, process observation requires defining which processes or activities should be observed, out of all those carried out in an organization. The processes or activities to be observed will depend on the Basic Element (EB) that is being evaluated and the aspects of thought or intention written in the company's documentation that need to be confirmed.

Let's now explore some of the advantages and disadvantages of this technique.



Advantages:

- It allows to reveal behaviors and establish differences with respect to intentions expressed in writing or formulated by the organization.
- Enables the identification of visible manifestations that may reflect (directly or indirectly) underlying cultural issues.
- Fosters some interaction with managers and workers in real time and conditions.

Disadvantages:

- It involves a risk of generalization from a limited number of isolated individual findings or behaviors that may not necessarily represent a cultural pattern in the organization.
- Requires a clear definition of the processes to be observed, as it is not possible to observe everything.
- Does not guarantee anonymity.
- What is observed may be distorted from reality due to the awareness of being observed and a desire to make a good impression.
- Could interfere with the normal development of the observed activities and lead to situations of increased radiological risk.

The Process Observation technique should be well-prepared to achieve the desired objectives. Therefore, follow the following rules:



1. Observe what is required according to the Basic Element (EB) being evaluated.
2. Observe an operation, process, or activity as many times as possible. Remember that a single behavior is not sufficient to establish a cultural pattern. Multiple observations are required.
3. Consider the "observer effect" on the value of an observation, but never hide to make the observation.
4. Remember that an observation of "culture" is NOT the same as a safety observation.
5. Observation should not interfere with the course of the observed activity.
6. Avoid generating radiological risks during the observation.
7. Do not stand out during the observation; maintain appropriate attire and location.
8. If you decide to interact with those being observed, focus on reflection and learning, not evaluation or judgment. Refrain from expressing opinions.
9. Always keep your observation focused on cultural aspects.

And remember, if you are a manager or work promoting Safety Culture, keep in mind that the Process Observation technique is not an evaluation of the safety of what is observed. It is a way to understand the real behavior of the organization and its alignment with the written thoughts regarding its values regarding safety.

[1] IAEA. IAEA TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS COLLECTION. TECDOC1995 Safety Culture in Organizations, Facilities, and Activities Related to the Use of Ionizing Radiation Sources, Vienna, 2022.

[2] IAEA. Performing Safety Culture Self-Assessment, Safety Reports Series no. 83. IAEA. Vienna 2016.

Ruben Ferro - Renan Ramirez

EURADOS TRAINING COURSE (WG6): 'MONTE CARLO MODELING: BASIC CONCEPTS, AVAILABLE RESOURCES, AND APPLICATIONS IN RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION' - CALL FOR REGISTRATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024, FROM 9:00 TO 13:00

AS A PARALLEL EVENT TO THE EURADOS ANNUAL MEETING IN OXFORD, UNITED KINGDOM.

Monte Carlo modeling is a widely used technique in radiological protection that can determine the passage and effects of radiation through matter, with applications spanning a wide variety of topics and providing results to all EURADOS Working Groups. However, the Monte Carlo approach is not always well-understood by researchers who are not actively involved in it. The upcoming short course by EURADOS aims to address this by providing introductory lectures that explain what the Monte Carlo method is, summarize some of the available computer codes to achieve its purposes, and highlight the wide variety of projects that have benefited from its contributions. The course is intended for individuals with little or no experience in Monte Carlo calculations but who are curious about how it could enhance their areas of work.

Registration deadline: March 25, 2024: <https://eurados.sckcen.be/form/training-course-monte-carlo>

The participation fee (online participation is not possible) will be €125 with a 20% discount (fee of €100) for EURADOS sponsoring organizations. The registration and participation fee for this Training Course is separate from the registration and participation fee for the Annual Assembly.

To view the program and more information: <https://eurados.sckcen.be/news-overview/eurados-training-course-wg6-monte-carlo-modelling-basic-concepts-available-resources-and-applications-radiological-protection-call-registration>



WEBINAR: "OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO IONIZING RADIATION AND NON-CANCER OUTCOMES: PLANNED ANALYSES OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL DOSE REGISTRY AND PRELIMINARY FINDINGS"

CARLETON UNIVERSITY, OTTAWA, CANADA
FEBRUARY 9, 2024 2:00 TO 3:00 PM (GMT)



Paul
Villeneuve

Laura Rodríguez
Villamizar

Brianna
Frangione

Most epidemiological studies on ionizing radiation exposure have focused on cancer. Findings from a series of epidemiological investigations suggest that radiation increases the risk of other chronic diseases including cardiovascular disease, ocular diseases, and dementia. Scarce evidence of radiation exposure risks for these outcomes is available for nuclear power plant (NPP) workers who are workers that have, on average, relatively low levels of radiation exposure in electricity-generating plants housing nuclear reactors. The overall objective of this research program is to characterize the risks of cardiovascular and dementia mortality, and cataract morbidity associated with occupational exposure to ionizing radiation in the NPP worker cohort from the Canadian National Dose Registry (NDR). The NDR, managed by Health Canada since the 1950s, contains occupational radiation exposure data for nearly one million workers. The webinar will present the overall structure of the research program, details of the linked databases used, and preliminary estimates of risk for cardiovascular and dementia mortality and cataracts and glaucoma morbidity in Canadian nuclear power plant workers.

Register:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5UA_eTu3GPfoI-TJ8gdsewGWvQ391-6lhGgsZ3FWlByn3Hg/viewform?pli=1

More information: <https://www.isored.org/webinar-videos>